

Environment Committee Minutes

Date: 15-Jan-2021

Time: 5:00pm to 6:00 pm

Attendees:

1. Alida Andersen (Environmental Chair)
2. Laura-Maria Nikolareizi (School Council Chair)
2. Janet Fry (Environmental Committee Member)
3. Shawn Vanderheyden (Environmental Committee Member)
4. Principal Scott Woolford

We discussed ideas for upcoming school eco events, education and programs for students at IPS.

A. The message from Mr Woolford was clear that a working environmental committee must adhere to the Eco School guidelines at IPS and TDSB.

B. Eco Ideas for IPS:

Overview:

-Alida and Janet will focus on ideas (including finding or creating videos) that support education around the environment -from raising awareness, art work, practices at home and within the school community.

-Alida and Janet will be working together to do a school wide event to celebrate Earth Day and other possible events related to the environment.

-Janet suggested if it was possible to have virtual classes meet together to start an eco club for the kids like they had last year. They could be lead by parents and supervised by teachers.

-Laura-Maria will focus on working with Principal Scott to implement an educational "bike program" for students at IPS to learn about bike safety which may fall under the phy ed program. Principal Scott has already contacted a TDSB approved contractor that can teach the classes.

-Shawn would like to implement a ride to school and back transportation program for IPS students. Principal Woolford is speaking to TDSB about how that program would look to ensure that there is no liability towards the school and staff at IPS. Shawn mentioned that there are a few families that would like to work on this piece.

-Shawn wanted more information from Principal Woolford what Eco School programs IPS has in place and if he can read the documents.

-Laura-Maria would like to help focus on continuing to build the outdoor garden and have more vegetables that families can take care of, help themselves to vegetables and also donate to the various food banks in the city. The educational piece is for IPS students to learn where their food comes from farm to table. The science behind growing food. Laura-Maria also mentioned possible grants that can support this project.

-Janet and Laura-Maria will be working together with Mr. Woolford to apply for several environmental grants to help with school fundings.

Action Items

- Principal Woolford will follow up at next meeting status on bike to school and back program.
- Principal Woolford will follow up on the bike program at school.
- Alida will follow up on proposed video postings they will be filmed and shared with school body via school messenger.
- Alida and Janet will be following up with Mr. Woolford to see how we can organize environmental educational events either through online or in person with classrooms.
- Principal Woolford to follow up on the status of teachers participating in virtual student clubs.

The members of the environmental committee will continue to work on these projects during school year.

If anyone wants to reach out and volunteer to help within this committee, please feel free to reach out to us at <http://tdsb.on.ca/owa/SC.IslandPublicNaturalScienceSchool@tdsb.on.ca>

sincerely,

Environmental School Committee